

TOPEKA STATE JOURNAL

By FRANK P. MACLENNAN.

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FULL LEASED WIRE REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

The State Journal is a member of the Associated Press and receives the full day telegraph report of that great news organization for the exclusive afternoon publication of the Topeka Journal. The news is received in The State Journal building over wires for this sole purpose.

Several Republican candidates for congress were elected unexpectedly in the southern states and in this way did the "solid south" gets a few punctures.

With the death of the Empress Dowager of China, a child of three years, Pu Yi by name, is elevated to the dragon's throne and for a continued period that benighted country will have to struggle along under the rule of a regent.

If every hunter, or would be hunter, that has gone out after quail since the opening of the season and will go out before the season's end in one short month gets two of these birds, it may be set down that the quail in Kansas this year were exceedingly numerous.

Shipments in all kinds of goods and merchandise are increasing; prices are higher; collections are easier and better and idleness is being greatly diminished. This is the gist of the business and financial reviews for the past week and they are the beginning of the spelling of "prosperity" with capital letters.

Oklahoma celebrated the first anniversary of its birth as a state on Monday and the chances are that this baby commonwealth has tried more important experiments in the administration of its affairs than have many of the older states during their entire existence. And the adequacy of a good many of them is yet to be determined definitely.

When Mr. Roosevelt gets busy as an associate editor of The Outlook won't Colonel George Harvey, the acetic editor of Harper's Weekly and the North American Review, have a fruitful field for comment and other things? Colonel Harvey's opinion of Colonel Roosevelt and his abilities along divers lines is well, the less said about it is probably the better.

Final election returns show that the Republicans will have a majority of forty-seven members in the house of representatives. This is certainly an excellent working majority but the great trouble is that it is the hardest proposition in the world to get a majority of the Republicans to work together on such matters as tariff revision and other questions of moment.

Stephen B. Elkins, United States senator from West Virginia, makes emphatic announcement that his daughter, Katherine, is not engaged to marry the Duke of Abruzzi of the reigning family of Italy. That ought to settle it and may be looked upon as extremely good news for Miss Elkins. She's too nice a girl to get snubbed by the royal dames of any land.

No more natural gas for the places in Kansas that get their supply from Oklahoma fields in two years when the supply will be exhausted is the rather disquieting news from an Oklahoma, who poses as an authority on the subject. Probably he is an alarmist, of whom there are not a few in the new state. Others who are pretty well versed in this subject are under the impression that the tapping of the gas fields in Oklahoma and contiguous territory is but in its infancy and that enough gas will be found to provide an adequate supply for years to come.

The National Prosperity association, a St. Louis organization, evidently has a mighty high opinion of its abilities along certain lines. It is out with a statement to the effect that it prevented President Roosevelt from sending any more special messages to congress which might be construed as being hostile to corporations. There is probably no power or force on the face of the earth, except his own sweet will, that prevented Mr. Roosevelt from sending messages of this sort to congress. He probably arrived at the conclusion, which almost everybody else reached, that he had promulgated a plenty of these missives.

Merry times are doubtless ahead in the conduct of the affairs of The Outlook as soon as Mr. Roosevelt begins his duties as an associate editor of it. Indications seem to point that James Stillman, the New York banker, who is looked upon as the influential agent man of the Standard Oil crowd and also a dear friend of E. H. Harriman, owns a decidedly controlling interest in this magazine. This brings forth a statement from Mr. Roosevelt that it does not matter

to him who owns the publication. He will be responsible for what he writes for it. Very good. But the man or men who own The Outlook will be responsible for what is printed in it. Their ideas on all things may not jibe with Mr. Roosevelt's and the necessity may perhaps arise when they will have to use the blue pencil on some of his stuff. Then, what will happen? Even the most vivid imagination cannot say.

THE BUSINESS REVIVAL.

An excellent and authoritative survey of the wonderful renewal of activity in all of the many branches of business in this country is found in the current weekly financial review issued by Henry Clews & Co., one of the most reliable of the banking houses in New York city and with connections all over the land from which it obtains first hand information. In it, Mr. Clews, writes these reviews himself, says, among other things:

"One of the most gratifying features of the day is the unmistakable revival of business in many directions. Of course, improvement is much more pronounced in some quarters than others, but the recovery is most certainly genuine and not of the imaginary sort talked about by last summer's 'prosperity' boomers. There is no extraordinary prosperity now in sight, and none is desired; for the country needs enough of such and their disastrous reactions, and simply requires a gradual and steady resumption of normal activities, such as it is now experiencing. All that the country needs for the present is to be let alone for a period in order to recover its nerve and wonted activities."

"If we look for the quarters in which recovery is most pronounced we find it in the building and engineering trades. This was to be expected. A great many important enterprises were in course of construction or about to be initiated when the panic came. These works, moreover, were often very urgent in their character owing to the rapid growth of our great cities. Congestion of traffic and the great demand for new homes and office buildings made many of these enterprises imperative. The great pressure upon the railroads for better terminal facilities and greater carrying capacity is already an old story; and their excessive demands upon the money market in 1907 was no doubt one of the elements which brought on the financial crisis that for nearly a year paralyzed all industrial pursuits. With easier conditions in the money market and with a gradual revival of confidence, these activities are being gradually resumed; and now that the last element of uncertainty, the presidential election, has disappeared, the chief shackles upon industry have been loosened. Another very important aid to resumption has been the decline in raw materials. High costs of production and operation, the inevitable accompaniments of the late boom, have been a serious hindrance to recovery. Raw materials, however, underwent a considerable decline after the panic, and this fact together with the important reduction in interest rates, has materially facilitated a fresh start. It is estimated that office buildings, apartments and other engineering structures can now be erected at a cost of 10 to 15 per cent less than a year or two ago. Steel, lumber and bricks each having undergone considerable declines. Wages have not been reduced, but labor is in a much more rational spirit than formerly and its efficiency is undoubtedly better. Some idea of the increased activity in building is obtained from the regular trade authorities, which show that building expenditures in 35 leading cities during October were nearly 44 per cent greater than in October, 1907; while the increase in Greater New York in the same period was as much as 76 per cent. This comparison is made with a time when depression was beginning in the building trades but had not reached its climax by any means; and the figures just quoted show a surprising revival in an important industry, foreshadowing a growing demand for steel and all other building materials. The signs of recovery extend also to other lines of business. The cotton goods trade is much more active than at any time since the panic, and liberal orders are being placed at advancing prices. There are fewer idle cotton and woolen mills than for many months. Interior distributors are now filling up their shelves with larger supplies of dry goods and groceries, stocks having been much depleted by prolonged caution in purchases. The west continues optimistic and prosperous, thanks to a profitable harvest, and there is every prospect of a good fall and winter trade in all parts of the country from Maine to California and from Dakota to Florida. Our rapid emergence from depression is remarkable; we plunged more deeply than any other country into the slough of despond; and as usual we are leading all others in the path towards recovery. This of course is explained by our great national resources, by our great wealth and by our general financial soundness backed by the indomitable optimism which characterizes the American spirit. Later on Europe and Great Britain will follow our example, for which there is great need, especially in the latter country."

Co-operation of the farmers is needed now to make the work of improving their condition, which has been undertaken by a new federal commission, says Mr. Roosevelt. Sure it is. And it will be needed just as much, if not more after this commission has done its work and made its recommendations. For after all is said and done if the condition of the farmers, or any other class of people, is to be materially bettered, the gears of the work will have to be done by the farmers themselves. Folks always have to work out their own salvation to a greater and less degree, principally greater, al-

though they occasionally get a helping hand along the way through the medium of suggestions, and that is really about all the help that can be expected from Mr. Roosevelt's farmers' commission, and perhaps the help by way of suggestions that this commission will make will be as effective as they undoubtedly will be extensive.

JOURNAL ENTRIES

Besides gathering little or no moss a rolling stone also goes down hill.

Some men seem to have an idea that when they put on a hunting jacket they become expert hunters.

Many aspiring vocalists who take great pains with their singing are often successful in giving them.

Among the drawbacks of suburban life are the lawn mowers in the summer and the snow shovels in the winter.

Persons should be thankful that they do not have to experience the "better days" that some folks are always haranguing about having enjoyed.

JAYHAWKER JOTS

The Farmers' Voice of Clyde is making more noise than ever in its vicinity. It put in a new cylinder press not long ago.

Some Kansas newspapers that are rivals in the same field are exceedingly neighborly. Frank Jarrell, editor and proprietor of the Holton Signal, bought a type-setting machine recently and he sells all the type for the Holton Recorder. The Signal and the Commercial at Horton get along in the same way.

Nearly everyone thinks the city of Clyde is getting to be a very quiet place, since her name is Lewis Griggs. At a recent council meeting she read an official letter directed to her in which the correspondent addressed her as "Dear Sir." And in the minds of all the Garden City folks the first half of this designation was all right.

E. P. Culley of Iola has purchased a controlling interest in the Olathe Mirror, but there will be no immediate change in the management of the paper. H. H. Pettibone will continue as its business manager while the editorial department will be looked after by J. W. Richardson, who has taken in this capacity for some time past.

Splendor always confuses a person who is not used to it. Which recalls a story Jim McGee told to an Atchison Globe reporter several years ago. Jim McGee is now county treasurer of Mitchell county, and is well known in western Kansas as an auctioneer with long lungs. When McGee was a boy he lived with his parents on a farm in an eastern state. As a boy, he always had an ambition to dine in a swell hotel in a neighboring city. He spent hours planning about the delicious things he would order from the bill of fare, if he ever had an opportunity to shove his feet under one of the tables of the hotel. One day his father announced that he would take him to the city, and that they would dine at that hotel. Jim was very excited and anticipated the delicacies he would order. He and his father went to the city, and at dinner time went to the hotel. The minute the waiter came to take their order, Jim grew dizzy over the splendor that surrounded him; he never saw anything half as gorgeous as the interior of that hotel. He was so dazzled that he forgot to order anything. The waiter, who was a boy, took to the great dining room, and placed at a table. Pretty soon a dandy came along for the order. Jim's eyes were wide open, and he saw that there was nothing else but a blur to him. He tried to recall what he had planned to order, but his memory lapsed. He said, with a great effort to overcome the lump in his throat, he blurted out: "Ham and eggs." He had eaten ham and eggs twice a day all his life, and what splendor did it to Jim McGee when he was a boy.

GLOBE SIGHTS.

[From the Atchison Globe.] There is no more expensive luxury in the world than getting even.

There is only one thing people like that is good for them: a good night's sleep.

Nearly every man imagines, when he comes into possession of an old and battered coin, that he has a gold mine.

A mother's idea of as good luck as she can have for her son is to occasionally find a pair of stockings in the pile that doesn't need darning.

For a few weeks after his wife's death, a widower looks at women with the indifference and lack of interest that characterizes a sick man. But how soon he gets over it!

Pick out twenty young men, and not more than five of them are making as much money as the other fifteen. The indications are that the poor house of the future will have to be six stories high, with folding beds in every room.

The women are learning more about the matter every day, but the men are not taking any more interest in cooking. It seems that in the course of a few years, the women will have everything to do. A woman does a great deal of work in all days and ages, and in these it is more than ever because on top of all her work she still has to "do" her hair. And "doing" one's hair these days doesn't end with a door knob twist.

There is not much summer loafing, that is serious, and little of the winter variety that is frivolous. When a man walks half a dozen blocks through cold and snow to see a girl, he means business. Susceptible girls shouldn't believe anything that is said to them in July and August.

A number of years ago an Atchison man married a woman who had been a Republican. He spent half of it on her wedding outfit, and the other half on giving Christmas presents to her kin. Since their marriage, the husband has built a \$5,000 house, and purchased a new automobile and a car, and which were earned by hard work. But, in explaining his prosperity, his neighbors still say: "His wife had married a Republican."

When they occasionally get a helping hand along the way through the medium of suggestions, and that is really about all the help that can be expected from Mr. Roosevelt's farmers' commission, and perhaps the help by way of suggestions that this commission will make will be as effective as they undoubtedly will be extensive.

KANSAS COMMENT

PROFITLESS TALK.
Many people in Emporia, as in other towns, are wasting these sunny golden days standing around about the marketplace and the tabernacle, talking over the electric explaining why Bryan was defeated. Speculating as to what might have happened had the result been otherwise; planning dress, and wearing airy fabrics which are of no earthly use to a soul.

Why not drop it all and get down to business? The voters have been cast, the country has been saved; the Moving Finger writes, and having writ, moves on. Let us also move on.

There are things to be done, and there have been neglects for long. The town is full of dead leaves and rubbish; why not rake them up, and trust Taft to do the right thing about regulation of the trusts? There are old bottles and dead rats and such things on the public streets; why not cast them where they belong, and rest on the belief that congress will deal intelligently with the money trust?

There is no human occupation less profitable than this thing of thrashing straw that has been failed a thousand times over by that family, and of the race.—Emporia Gazette.

When a western editor "goes after" a man, he reminds us of a New York dramatic critic will, for some reason, hate a popular play and actor. For months he will abuse the play and actor. Because the people do not accept his views of the dramatic critic, the critic will abuse the people. The people rarely read dramatic criticism but the critic hammers away week after week. In politics, the dramatic critic is a beneficiary. Finally, the owner of the theater where the popular play is being presented, may refuse admission to the angry party which has been in power at the time the critic appeals to the courts, and that feature of the case attracts his attention for a time. Finally, the court gives its decision, and the dramatic critic is permitted to enter the theater again. He continues his abuse of the actor and play, and sometimes he goes crazy, or commits suicide. Isn't this the way in which the dramatic critic when he "goes after" a man? He hates without reason, and carries his abuse so far that he injures himself rather than the object of his hatred.—Atchison Globe.

A PRECEDENT BROKEN.

The election of Taft breaks a precedent. Perhaps it breaks several of them, but the one which seems largest to me is this: There isn't any day when the Republicans were victorious when the country is in the midst of a period of depression. In no single instance before has the electorate failed to overthrow the party which was in power at the time the panic occurred. English history also shows a similar list of precedents, showing the tendency of the voters to turn out and elect a new party when the country is in financial and industrial affairs. It is true that the country is recovering from its panic, but it isn't entirely normal yet by any means. The election of Taft is a precedent which will be remembered for a long time. The question arises, which can never be positively answered: Would a Democrat of the more conservative type have been elected in place of Taft? Most of us expect, or hope, to escape the electric chair. Therefore we are not especially concerned to know whether the unfortunate knave who have to die as condemned men really expire by the shock or by the knife.—Julius Chambers, in Brooklyn Eagle.

COULDN'T FOOL HER.

It was at Quimper, in Brittany, that a tourist found an old woman selling trinkets. "What is the price of this?" he asked, taking up an antique ring of silver and sapphires. "Is it for your wife or your sweetheart?" said the old woman. "For my sweetheart." "Fifty francs." "Fifty francs! Nonsense." And the tourist turned angrily away. "Come back," said the old woman. "Take it for ten. You've been lying to me. You haven't any sweetheart. Had the ring been for her you'd have bought it at once without regard to its price." "I will take it," said the tourist, smiling. He gave her the ten francs. "But you haven't a wife, either," she grumbled. "If it had been for her you'd have beaten me down to 5 francs. Oh, you men!"—Chicago News.

SENSELESS SOLUTION OF FOOD PROBLEM.

The process of dehydration may solve the food problem of the world when the population shall have exceeded the food productivity of the earth, by turning the seaweed of the great oceans into a valuable food product, was the theory advanced by Judge M. S. Griswold at a "dehydro" banquet given the other day.

It is the first of the kind ever served in the world, and was prepared by Miss C. A. Lyford, a domestic science expert of the State Normal university of Bloomington, Ill.

At this banquet the place of resistance was seaweed done into fries, roasts, purees, and many other contrived dishes by the skillful cook. Every diner claimed to have enjoyed it hugely, and all were to have it the next day.—Waukesha (Wis.) dispatch to New York American.

THE SUCKER STATE.

Illinois has been called the "Sucker state" for many years, and her natives are known as "suckers." A dozen reasons or excuses have been given for this strange designation, but the only satisfactory one was told me the other day by a grandson of Ninian Edwards. "The early pioneers adopted many Indian habits. They even strapped their babies to boards like papooses. After they began to raise crops the mother would leave her little ray of sunshine alone in the cabin for hours; but to alleviate his solitude she gave him a large piece of raw pork to suck, first tying it to his foot by a string, so that when he attempted to swallow it the natural impulse to suck would save him from choking."—New York Press.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

[From the New York Press.] When a girl is so clever with men as making them think she thinks they are.

The only mission a good many people worthily perform in life is when they get out of it.

The reason people seldom ever leave well is that they begin at it by thinking they know all about it.

A bride has such an imagination she can go on believing it is still the honeymoon when it's just housekeeping.

A woman's explanation of why she played a hand of whist the way she did is as convincing as a man's illumination of how he ought to have won a bet but lost it.

A CHANGE IN STYLES.

When William Taft is President, heigho, in 1909.
How styles will change. No one of us can tell. The train down to the Horse jockeys will begin to stuff, and ere they go their rounds. Each one will have to take the scale at full two hundred pounds. May Irwin will not have to bant in one continuous Lent.
But she can amble out and sing, when Taft is President.

Thin men of every shape and size will be glad to see themselves away from all hollow cheeks will be taboos, all diets be passé.
All hatched faces will be mobbed. Each girl we love must be
So fat she'll quiver in our arms in rotund ecstasies.
Round-bellied aeronauts must steer balloons they represent.
All cooks must sleep in public beds, when Taft is President.

The corporations will not be confined to just a few.
But all the common people will have corporations, too.
No one will dare to worry, though in debt we'll gaily smile.
For we might lose flesh by worry, and we wouldn't be in style!

And the rich ladies are coming and we're broke, we'll still present
Our devotion to all the world, when Taft is President.

—Judge.

DEATH BY ELECTROCUTION.

The attitude of Coroner George F. Shady, son of the most distinguished surgeon of his time, toward the killing of criminals by electricity is one that should have been taken long before this time. Dr. Shady's whose opinions would carry weight.

Dr. Shady pronounces the present method of executing murderers in the most brutal conceivable by the human mind. He goes much further and declares that a clause in the bill, providing for immediate autopsy, is intended to make death sure.

That is to say, he asserts that the attendant surgeons who carve up the still warm body are the real executioners.

Could any charge be more terrible? It is, in effect, a dreadful humiliation to the profession of surgery to compel some of its members to destroy signs of returning life by taking out the heart and the brain of the supposedly dead man within ten minutes of the removal of the body from the electric chair. Indeed, Dr. Shady makes the definite charge that one murderer, named by him, was in a fair way to revive and was given a poisonous drug that finished him.

Dr. Shady's startling charge has been uttered by a responsible man in many years. His words would indicate that we are returning to the days of Socrates, when the death penalty was inflicted by condemning the condemned to drink hemlock.

After a long experience as reporter and special correspondent, during which many executions have been witnessed, the writer would vote for the guillotine. If he were asked how he had to die as a condemned man, he would say: "There isn't any day when the Republicans were victorious when the country is in the midst of a period of depression. In no single instance before has the electorate failed to overthrow the party which was in power at the time the panic occurred. English history also shows a similar list of precedents, showing the tendency of the voters to turn out and elect a new party when the country is in financial and industrial affairs. It is true that the country is recovering from its panic, but it isn't entirely normal yet by any means. The election of Taft is a precedent which will be remembered for a long time. The question arises, which can never be positively answered: Would a Democrat of the more conservative type have been elected in place of Taft? Most of us expect, or hope, to escape the electric chair. Therefore we are not especially concerned to know whether the unfortunate knave who have to die as condemned men really expire by the shock or by the knife.—Julius Chambers, in Brooklyn Eagle.

FROM OTHER PENS

MAKING IDEAL SERVANTS.
Baltimore was made in the summer recently to the policy of the New York German housewives in awarding prizes to domestic servants for faithfulness and ability. It was hoped that the effect of this would be to raise the effect of elevating the standard of domestic service. Now the London county council, which is the official body for the city, has announced a much more radical action toward the solution of the servant problem. A home is to be provided near London where the girls of the county council, where girls will be trained in the arts of cooking, housecleaning, waiting at table and caring for the baby. During the 12 weeks of training all their expenses will be paid by the council, and in addition they will receive a regular allowance for pocket money. Upon their graduation they will be given certificates of competency, and it is expected that their services will command a somewhat higher rate of payment than the present rate. Eventually it is hoped to establish a large number of training schools of this kind throughout the county and when housewives see the kind of servants that are turned out, they will decline to employ any others. Thus the scheme would benefit both employers and employees, raising not only wages, but the standard of efficiency.—Fittsburg Gazette-Times.

"SUFFERING" THEORY OF GENIUS.

In his recent "Four Victorian Poets" Stopford Brooks could attempt to prove the familiar theory. He was talking about poets, and he said that, for his part, he never took much stock in the idea that geniuses were entitled to sympathy on the ground that their superior sensitiveness condemned them to much suffering.

He pointed out that, even if this sensitiveness invited pain and suffering, it was a pleasure. The artist has a thousand delicate perceptions which the workaday man may lack, and each one of them is a source of joy and delight. The pleasures of the artistic temperament thus counterbalance or more than counterbalance the disadvantages.

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THE EVENING STORY

A Matter of Conventions.

[By Clarissa Mackie.]

The train screamed its way through the valley, grunted up the steep incline, and came to a standstill before the ramshackle little station. It paused while a few passengers alighted, and then it hurried off, as if it was glad to get away from such an insignificant stopping place.

Elsie Lansing accepted her leather bag from the tuckered station agent, and who at the same time pushed a suitcase toward the other traveler—a tall, young man, buttoned up in a gray ulster.

"Stage here for Greentop?" queried the latter, picking up his grip.

"Not this day!" returned the agent, grimly. "Jim Laddlaw, he seems to think Saturday's made special, so's he can get a little drunker'n usual! If you ain't expected, you'll have to wait!"

With which remark he slammed the station door and as if it was glad to get away from such an insignificant stopping place.

"Let me see—it's 12 miles to Greentop, isn't it?" asked the stranger thoughtfully.

"Twelve and a half. Straight road ahead." The agent tramped away across the platform and disappeared inside a small cottage perched on the high bank above the tracks.

Elsie looked dubiously at the frozen road, stretching away between pine-clad heights, faintly touched with the early morning sun. She had traveled that road, and had had her share of her newly acquired brother-in-law to meet her.

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